

### REMARKS

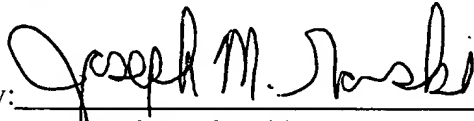
Initially, the courtesies extended by Examiner Wilkins during the personal interview conducted on July 21, 2004, are greatly appreciated. During the interview, Applicants' undersigned representative and Dr. Serikawa, one of the inventors of the instant application, explained that with regard to the instant invention, oxygen and hydrogen are not formed during high temperature and high pressure hydrothermal electrolysis and then dissolved into a solution, but rather, due to a different reaction scheme, formation of oxygen and hydrogen is suppressed during such electrolysis.

After considering this explanation, Examiner Wilkins expressed that the rejection of claims 35-56 as set forth in the Office Action mailed May 4, 2004, would not be maintained.

Accordingly, in view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, with the allowed claims being 35-56.

Respectfully submitted,

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